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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: BARANOVA ET AL: )  
SERIAL NO.: 09/076,956 ) EXAMINER: L. CRANE, Ph.D.  
FILED: MAY 13, 1998 ) ) ART UNIT: 1623  
FOR: PROCESS FOR THE SYNTHESIS OF ) ) CONF. NO.: 5479  
NUCLEIC ACIDS ON A SOLID )  
SUPPORT AND COMPOUNDS WHICH )  
ARE USEFUL IN PARTICULAR AS )  
SOLID SUPPORTS IN THE SAID )  
PROCESS )

RECEIVED  
SEP 12 2003  
TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In regard to the referenced application and the Office Action of May 7, 2003,  
Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments.

**AMENDMENTS**

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this submission.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3  
of this submission.

**Remarks** begin on page 6 of this submission.